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NASA Procedural Requirements

COMPLIANCE IS MANDATORY**NPR 8705.4**Effective Date: June 14,
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 (NASA Only)**Subject: Risk Classification for NASA Payloads (Revalidated July 9, 2008)****Responsible Office: Office of Safety and Mission Assurance**[| TOC](#) | [Change History](#) | [Preface](#) | [Chapter1](#) | [Chapter2](#) | [AppendixA](#) | [AppendixB](#) | [AppendixC](#) |
[ALL](#) |

Preface

P.1 PURPOSE

This NPR establishes baseline criteria that enable a user to define the risk classification level for NASA payloads on human- or nonhuman-rated launch systems or carrier vehicles and the design and test philosophy and the common assurance practices applicable to each level. The establishment of the risk level early in the program/project provides the basis for program and project managers to develop and implement appropriate mission assurance and risk management strategies and requirements and to effectively communicate the acceptable level of risk.

P.2 APPLICABILITY

P.2.1 This NPR applies to NASA Headquarters, NASA Centers, and to the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and other contractors to the extent specified in their respective contracts.

P.2.2 This document applies to programs and projects governed by NPR 7120.5D, NASA Space Flight Program and Project Management Requirements.

P.2.3 This NPR applies to NASA payloads and does not apply to launch systems or carrier vehicles. Application of this NPR to on-orbit services or non-NASA payloads provided to NASA as a result of foreign collaborations is at the discretion of the responsible NASA Mission Directorate.

P.2.4 This NPR takes precedence over all other lower level documents.

P.2.5 The following definitions apply:

a. Payload - Any airborne or space equipment or material that is not an integral part of the carrier vehicle (i.e., not part of the carrier aircraft, balloon, sounding rocket, expendable or recoverable launch vehicle). Included are items such as free-flying automated spacecraft, Space Shuttle payloads, Space Station payloads, Expendable Launch Vehicle payloads, flight hardware and instruments designed to conduct experiments, and payload support equipment.

b. NASA Payload - Any payload for which NASA has design, development, test, or operations responsibility.

P.3 AUTHORITY

42 U.S.C. 2473 (c)(1), Section 203 (c)(1) of the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958, as amended.

P.4 APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

a. NPD 8720.1, NASA Reliability and Maintainability (R&M) Program Policy.

- b. NPD 8730.5, NASA Quality Assurance Program Policy.
- c. NPR 7120.5D, NASA Space Flight Program and Project Management Requirements.
- d. NPR 8000.4, Risk Management Procedural Requirements.
- e. NPR 8705.5, Probabilistic Risk Assessment (PRA) Procedures for NASA Programs and Projects.
- f. NPR 8735.1, Procedures For Exchanging Parts, Materials, and Safety Problem Data Utilizing the Government-Industry Data Exchange Program and NASA Advisories.
- g. NPR 8735.2, Management of Government Quality Assurance Functions for NASA Contracts.

P.5 CANCELLATION

None.

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY: /S/
Bryan O'Connor
Associate Administrator for
Safety and Mission Assurance**

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